

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/784,171	
Filing Date	February 16, 2001	
First Named Inventor	Norio KIMURA et al.	
Group Art Unit	3723	RECEIVED
Examiner Name	Robert A. Rose	NOV 0 4 2003
Attorney Docket Number	2001_0163AOFFICE OF PETITIONS	
Confirmation No.	1530	

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

- Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
  - a. [] Previously submitted:
    - [] Please enter and consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on i.
    - [] Please consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on ü.
    - iii. [] Other\_
  - b. [X] Enclosed:
    - [X] Preliminary Amendment/Reply i.
    - [] Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
    - [X] Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) iii.
    - iv. [] Other\_
- Miscellaneous
  - a. [] Suspension of action on the above-identified application is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required).
  - b. [] Other\_
- Fees (The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.)
  - a. [] The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. .
    - i. [X] RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
    - ii. [X] Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and § 1.17)
    - iii. [X] Other Additional Claims Fee
  - b. [X] Check in the amount of \$1,328.00 enclosed

4. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

000513

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

11/03/2003 RHARIS1 00000028 230975 09784171

01 FC:1801

770.00 DA

David M. Ovedovitz Registration No. 45,336

WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P. 2033 "K" Street, N.W., Suite 800 Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Phone: (202) 721-8200

Fax:(202) 721-8250

July 28, 2003

The PTC did not receive the tollowing listed item(s). A chack for \$1,3